VIII. *A Supplement to a Paper, entitled, Obſervations on the Population of* Mancheſter[a]. *By* Thomas Percival, *M. D. F. R. and A. S.*

TO THE REV. DR. HORSLEY.

REV. SIR,

R. Dec. 14, 1775. A PAINFUL nervous complaint in my eyes, with which I have been troubled a few days, lays me under the neceſſity of writing to you by an *amanuenſis*. I beg leave to return you my beſt thanks for your kind attention to my Memoir. If you think the following additions of importance, you are at liberty to annex them to it[b].

I have the honour to be, &c.

FROM the table of the number of males and females baptized in different places it appears[c], that the proportion of males to females baptized is nearly as 13 to 12, agreeable to the calculation of Mr. DERHAM; but the ſucceeding ones ſhew, the number of females alive conſiderably exceed the number of males, in a variety of places; and that the widows are almoſt double the number of widowers.

(a) See Philoſoph. Tranſactions, vol. LXV. art. XXIII.

(b) Theſe papers came too late to my hands to be inſerted in the laſt publication. S. HORSLEY.

(c) See Philoſoph. Tranſ. vol. LXV. p 333.

A com-

A comparative view of the numbers of males and females in different places.

Places.	Males.	Females.
Mancheſter,	10548	11933
Salford,	2248	2517
Townſhips of ditto,	947	958
Pariſh of Mancheſter,	6942	6844
Bolton,	2159	2392
Little Bolton,	361	410
Monton,	196	190
Hale,	140	136
Horwich,	149	136
Darwen,	900	950
Cockey,	320	391
Chowbent,	554	606
Ackworth,	340	388
Eaſtham,	451	461
Chinley,	181	168
Brownſide,	40	47
Bugsworth,	80	95
Aſhton under Line,	1406	1453
Pariſh of ditto,	2584	2513
Tattenhall pariſh,	382	399
Waverton pariſh,	310	332
Total,	31238	33339

A comparative view of the number of widowers and widows in different places.

Places.	Widowers.	Widows.
Mancheſter,	432	1064
Salford,	89	149
Townſhip of ditto,	21	42
Pariſh of Mancheſter,	232	315
Monton,	14	13
Hale,	8	12
Horwich,	9	8
Darwen,	30	48
Cockey,	10	27
Chowbent,	26	43
Chinley, Brownſide, and Bugſworth,	15	18
Aſhton under Line,	50	81
Pariſh of ditto,	67	95
Total,	1003	1915

Let no arguments in favour of polygamy be drawn from theſe tables. The practice is brutal; deſtructive to friendſhip and moral ſentiment; inconſiſtent with one great end of marriage, the education of children; and ſubverſive of the natural rights of more than half of the ſpecies

— " Higher of the genial bed by far.
" And with myſterious reverence I deem." MILTON.

Nor

Nor is this tyranny of man over the weaker, but more amiable ſex favourable to population. For notwithſtanding the number of females in the world may conſiderably exceed the number of males, yet there are more men capable of propagating their ſpecies, than women capable of bearing children. This painful office gradually becomes more dangerous and leſs frequent as the rigidneſs of the fibres increaſes, and ceaſes intirely at the age of fifty. The fatality of it is thus wiſely obviated, and the comforts of declining life are not interrupted by the arduous toil of nurſing. An inſtitution, therefore, which confines in ſervile bondage to one uſurper, many females in the prime of youth, muſt leave numbers deſtitute of the means, which nature hath pointed out, for perpetuating and increaſing the race of mankind. And it is a fact well known, that Armenia, in which a plurality of wives is not allowed, abounds more with inhabitants than any other province of the Turkiſh empire.

P. S. Since the preceding paper was written, the rev. Mr. CRADDOCK hath favoured me with a ſurvey of the town and pariſh of Aſhton under Line, diſtant about eight miles from Mancheſter. The inhabitants conſiſt of manufacturers and farmers.

An enumeration of the inhabitants of the town and pariſh of Aſhton under Line, made in 1775.

	Town.	Pariſh.
Inhabitants,	2859	5097
Houſes,	553	941
Families,	599	971
Males,	1406	2584
Females,	1453	2513
Married,	982	1679
Widowers,	50	67
Widows,	81	95
Under five years of age,	509	896
From five to ten,	396	764
ten to twenty,	541	1011
twenty to fifty,	1044	1882
fifty to ſeventy,	307	471
ſeventy to ninety,	62	73

The rev. Dr. PEPLOE, chancellor of the dioceſe of Cheſter, has honoured me with the following account of the pariſhes of Waverton and Tattenhall, both in the neighbourhood of Cheſter. The inhabitants are farmers and labourers.

An

An enumeration of the inhabitants of Tattenhall, made in Auguſt, 1774, by the rev. BRICE STORR, curate.

Inhabited houſes,	148
Uninhabited ditto,	2
Heads of families,	176
Aged above 14 years,	462
Men and boys,	382
Women and girls,	399

	Chriſtenings.	Burials.
1764	28	8
1765	21	9
1766	19	12
1767	29	11
1768	28	16
1769	24	15
1770	37	15
1771	30	9
1772	26	15
1773	38	20
	280	130

An

An enumeration of the inhabitants of Waverton, made in Auguſt, 1774, by the rev. Mr. BISSETT, miniſter of the pariſh.

Inhabited houſes,	109
Uninhabited ditto,	2
Heads of families,	116
Aged above 14 years,	406
Men and boys,	310
Women and girls,	322

	Chriſtenings.	Burials.
1764	19	10
1765	26	2
1766	17	7
1767	18	10
1768	22	10
1769	17	7
1770	20	8
1771	23	9
1772	18	12
1773	13	9
	193	84

In the valuable work which I have ſo often quoted, Dr. PRICE hath given many convincing and melancholy proofs of the declining ſtate of population in this kingdom. The growth of large towns; the prevalence of vice

vice and luxury; the diſcouragements to marriage; the deſtruction of cottages; and various other cauſes have the moſt unfavourable influence on the increaſe of mankind. But it is to be hoped, that theſe evils do not univerſally prevail; and that even ſome good may ariſe from them to check their baneful effects. Certain it is, that in this part of England the inhabitants multiply with great rapidity: and though the increaſe may be chiefly owing to recruits drawn from other counties, yet the flouriſhing ſtate of our manufactures cannot fail to promote population, by affording plentiful means of ſubſiſtence to the poor. The biſhop of Cheſter informs me, that in various pariſh regiſters which he has conſulted, the births have progreſſively become more numerous from generation to generation. At Boxley in Kent, where his lordſhip was vicar, he divided the times, from the commencement of the reign of queen ELIZABETH, into periods of twenty-one years; and found, that the number of births in the firſt period was 310, and in the laſt 525. The increaſe was gradual through the whole time.

Mancheſter,
Sept. 20, 1775.